

From: Tom Kulaga
To: MS ATR
Date: 1/23/02 8:59pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am entirely against the current settlement proposal. Calling it a slap on the wrist would be overstating the case, and if the Court believes Microsoft is in violation of any anti-trust statutes, the Court is honor-bound to determine whether the proposed settlement offers anything remotely close to a remedy. The current settlement does nothing of the kind.

Microsoft should be separated into an Operating System division and a Software and Applications division. They should be entirely separate entities, with no sharing in any area, especially sales and marketing. Leaving them intact is akin to allowing Ford Motor Company to control the Department of Transportation, giving them the option of changing the rules of the road to accept only the cars they build, leaving other auto companies to go broke following a target they'll never hit.

So long as Microsoft's sales and marketing people can dictate a combined product strategy for Operating Systems and Applications, the Internet Explorer/Netscape issue will continue to happen, with only the victims changing names.

Regards,
-Tom Kulaga